

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1331

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By Mr. Knuuttila of Gardner, petition of Brian Knuuttila and others relative to the safeguarding of beavers in certain counties. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### PETITION OF:

Brian Knuuttila	John J. Binienda
Robert A. Antonioni	Mark J. Carron
Barbara A. L'Italien	John W. Scibak
David M. Torrisi	Paul Kujawski
Paul K. Frost	Lewis G. Evangelidis
Anne M. Gobi	Denis E. Guyer
Steven A. Baddour	Stephen M. Brewer

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In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

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### AN ACT SAFEGUARDING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section 1. Chapter 131 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 adding the following section 80B:—

4 Section 80B: Notwithstanding the provisions of c. 131 §80A,  
5 the division of fisheries and wildlife within the department of fish  
6 and game is hereby authorized to conduct a limited pilot program  
7 to determine the most effective way to achieve a healthy and bal-  
8 anced population of beaver. The program shall be limited to the  
9 following counties: Berkshire; Essex; Franklin; Hampshire; Mid-  
10 dlesex; and Worcester.

11 The division shall promulgate such rules and regulations for the  
12 implementation and administration of this section. Records of the  
12 number of animals taken, the number of public nuisance com-  
14 plaints received, the method of taking, and the location of taking,

15 shall be maintained by the division and reported annually to the  
16 Joint Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture.

17 Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow the use of  
18 the steel jaw leghold trap, padded leghold trap, and/or snares.

19 The pilot program and department powers enumerated in this  
20 section shall expire on January 1, 2007.